

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (New) A computerized method for estimating a completion time for a repair of an automobile in an auto body shop, comprising:

using a computer to examine auto body repair data present in a database comprising data corresponding to pre-work idle time, actual repair time, and department idle time of automobiles in need of a given repair in a given auto body shop;

determining average time periods from the auto body repair data; and

determining the sum of the average time periods in estimating the completion time of the given repair of the automobile in the given auto body shop.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising receiving data in the database input by a technician of the given auto body shop, the technician being responsible for repairing at least a portion of the automobile.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the data input by the technician is input in substantially real-time.

26. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising updating the database based on data input by a technician of the given auto body shop, the technician being is responsible for repairing at least a portion of the automobile.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the updating is automated.

28. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the auto body repair data includes efficiency data of at least one technician of the given auto body repair shop, the efficiency data used in calculating the average time periods.

29. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising generating at least one report based on the auto body repair data in the database.

30. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising determining work efficiency of a technician of the auto body shop in real time.

31. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising assigning auto body repair work for the given repair to a technician based on availability of the technician.

32. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising tracking each event of the given repair of the automobile while the automobile is in the auto body shop.

33. (New) A computerized system useful in estimating a completion time for a repair of an automobile in an auto body shop, comprising:

software comprising (i) a database accessible by at least one computer, the database comprising auto body repair data corresponding to pre-work idle time, actual repair time, and department idle time of automobiles in need of a given repair in a given auto body shop; and (ii) a scheduling component configured to determine average time periods from the auto body repair data present in the database, and to determine the sum of the average times is estimating the completion time of the given repair of the automobile in the given auto body shop.

34. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein at least a portion of the software is provided on a first computer remotely located in the given auto body shop from the computer with the database, the first computer being in communication with the computer having the database so that data input into the first computer by a technician of the given auto body shop responsible for repairing at least a portion of the automobile can be stored in the database.

35. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the auto body repair data includes efficiency data of at least one technician of the given auto body repair shop, the efficiency data being useful in calculating the average time periods.

36. (New) The system of claim 33, further comprising a reporting component configured to generate at least one report based on the auto body repair data in the database.

37. (New) The system of claim 33, further comprising an technician efficiency component configured to determine work efficiency of a technician of the auto body shop in real time.

38. (New) The system of claim 33, further comprising a tracking component useful in tracking each event of the given repair of the automobile while the automobile is in the auto body shop.